

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended): A management device or arrangement (D) for a communication network (N) which includes a multiplicity of equipment elements (NE-ij), each associated with a primary data management protocol, said device or arrangement (D) including mediation means (MM) coupled to said equipment elements (NE-ij) and to functional interface means (MIF) and system interface means (MIS) coupled to a network management system (NMS), ~~characterized~~characterized in that it includes protocol adaptation modules (Pa-j) in number at least equal to the number of management protocols associated with said equipment elements, and each arranged i) to convert primary data, coming from an equipment element (NE-ij) in accordance with a management protocol, into secondary data adapted to said mediation means (MM), and ii) to convert secondary data, intended for an equipment element (NE-ij), into primary data in accordance with a management protocol adapted to said equipment element, and in that said mediation means (MM) are arranged, on receipt of the primary or secondary data, to determine the associated equipment element (NE-ij) and then to feed the protocol adaptation modules (Pa-j) corresponding to said determined equipment element.

2. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 1,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that, on receipt of a request designating one of said equipment  
elements (NE-ij), said mediation means (MM) are arranged to generate a management  
information tree (MIT) which is representative of the links of said designated equipment element  
to other equipment elements in said network (N).

3. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 2,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said mediation means (MM) are arranged, after generating said  
management information tree (MIT), to configure a graphical user interface (GUI) in accordance  
with auxiliary data which are representative of said designated equipment element (NE-ij).

4. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement in accordance with claim 2,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that it includes said configurable graphical user interface (GUI)

5. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 3,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that it includes description modules (MD-p), each associated with  
at least one of said equipment elements (NE-ij) and including said auxiliary data.

6. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 5,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that each data description module (MD-p) is composed of at least  
one descriptor.

7. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement in accordance with claim 6,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that each descriptor is composed of at least one program code file  
and at least one configuration file.

8. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 7,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that one of said program code files of a descriptor includes first  
data designating a type to which an equipment element (NE-ij) belongs, and another of said  
program code files of said descriptor includes second data designating a management  
information base definition associated with said equipment element (NE-ij).

9. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 3,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said graphical user interface (GUI) and said mediation means  
(MM) are coupled via a bus (B) of the CORBA type.

10. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 2,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that it includes said functional interface module (MIF).

11. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 10,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said functional interface module (MIF) includes a provisioning  
module (PRO), arranged to as to extract on command management information concerning said  
an equipment element (NE-ij) and containing said management information tree (MIT), so as to  
send these to said equipment.

12. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 11,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said provisioning means (PRO) include program code files  
encapsulated in the north-plug type modules (NP).

13. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 11,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said provisioning means (PRO) are arranged to generate a  
communication channel (CC) dedicated to the transportation of chosen codes between at least  
one connection socket and said mediation means (MM).

14. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 11,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said functional interface means (MIF) include a supervision  
module (SUP) suitable for allowing said network management system (NMS) to administer said

equipment elements (NE-ij), and to handle the alarms and events coming from said equipment elements (NE-ij) via said mediation means (MM).

15. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 14,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said supervision module (SUP) is arranged in the form of a public interface of the IDL type.

16. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 1,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that it includes said system interface means (MIS).

17. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 16,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said system interface means (MIS) includes a navigation module (NAV) arranged to allow said network management system (NMS) to control said graphical user interface (GUI) and said mediation means (MM).

18. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 16,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said system interface means (MIS) include a persistency module (PER) which is arranged so as to allow the storage in memory of certain information data contained in said management information tree (MIT) and relating to the equipment elements (NE-ij) associated with a chosen level of priority.

19. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 18,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said persistency module (PER) includes an application  
programming interface (PAA)

20. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 19,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that said application programming interface (PAA) is of the JDBC  
type.

21. (Currently Amended): A device or arrangement according to claim 1,  
~~characterised~~characterized in that at least one of said mediation means, the graphical user  
interface Module (GUI), the functional interface means (MIF) (MM) and the system interface  
means (MIS) is composed of program code files.

22. (Currently Amended): A management server (MS) for a network management  
system (NMS), ~~characterised~~characterized in that it includes a management device or  
arrangement (D) according to claim 1.

23. (Currently Amended): A network equipment element (NE-ij),  
~~characterised~~characterized in that it includes a management device or arrangement (D) according  
to claim 1.

24. (Previously Presented): Use of the management device or arrangement (D), the  
management server (MS), and the network equipment (NE-ij) according to claim 1, in the  
network technologies which are to be managed.

25. (Currently Amended): Use according to claim 24, ~~characterised~~characterized in  
that said network technologies are chosen from a group which includes transmission networks, of  
the WDM, SONET and SDH types in particular, of data of the Internet-IP and ATM type in  
particular, and speech of the conventional, mobile and NGN type in particular.